

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

To Commissioner For Patents

Enclosed herewith is a Form PTO-1449, any required copies of documents listed thereon, and any concise explanation of their relevance is indicated below per 37 CFR 1.97.

<i>Application Number</i>	10/528296
<i>Filing Date</i>	
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Giovanni Nisato
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	
<i>Examiner Name</i>	
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	NL02 0847 US

Please charge any required fee under §1.17(i) or §1.17(p) or any other required fee (except the issue fee) to Account No. 14-1270.

1. I certify that these documents were first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months ago.
 2. I certify that none of these documents were cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, none of these documents was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three (3) months ago.
 - Applicant hereby petitions under §1.97(d) that this IDS be considered after final Action or Notice of Allowance, pays the fee under §1.17(p) as indicated below, and I certify 1. or 2. as indicated above.
 - A fee under §1.17(p) is not required under §1.97(c), after the first Action on the merits and more than (3) months after the date of application or RCE, because I certify 1. or 2. as indicated above.
 - A copy of the citations is not required because they were previously submitted or cited in the parent application (or in U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____) relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120).
- A copy of the U.S. patent(s) and patent application publication(s) in all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, and in all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC § 371 after June 30, 2003 under 37 CFR 1.491(b), are not required.
- A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English document, as understood by the individual designated in §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the contents, is enclosed per §1.98(a)(3).

The concise explanation of the relevance of any non-English document, as understood by the individual designated in §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the contents, is that the document is/was:

- cited in the specification or considered in drafting the specification of this application;
- previously submitted or cited in the parent application (or in a related patent application Ser. No. _____) Filing Date: _____;
- cited as an "X" or "Y" document in a foreign Patent Office search report in a foreign counterpart application, a copy of which report is also enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)	Kevin Simons, Reg. No. 45,110		
Signature	<i>Kevin S.</i>	Date	3/16/05

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. BOX 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date below:

Name (Print Type)	Daniel L. Michalek		
Signature	<i>Daniel L. Michalek</i>	Date	3/16/05

10/528296

DT15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAR 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: «First_Inventor» Docket No.: «DOCKETNO»

PTO Application No.: «ApplicationNo» Conf.: Art Unit: «ArtUnit»

«ConfNo» Examiner: «Examiner»

Date Filed: «FilingDate»

Title: «Title»

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL OF
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97**

Sir:

Enclosed in this transmittal is an "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" and a copy of each of the documents listed thereon. These documents are considered to be relevant in that they have been cited as an "X" or "Y" document in a foreign Patent Office search report on a foreign counterpart application, a copy of which report is also enclosed.

I hereby certify that these documents were cited in said search report not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

This disclosure is not an admission that any of these documents is material to or even prior art with respect to the above-referenced application.

The Commissioner is hereby requested and authorized pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a)(3), to treat any concurrent or future reply in this application requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. Please charge any additional fees which may now or in the future be required in this application, including extension of time fees, but excluding the issue fee unless explicitly requested to do so, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Date: 3/16/05

Respectfully submitted,

By Kevin Simons

Kevin Simons, Reg. No. 45,110
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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(Date) 3/16/05

(Signature)
(Name)

Daniel L. Michalek

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Application Number	«ApplicationNo» 10/528296
	Filing Date	«FilingDate»
	First Named Inventor	«First_Inventor»
	Art Unit	«ArtUnit»
	Examiner Name	«Examiner»
	Attorney Docket Number	«DOCKETNO»

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number No.-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 5 153 068	10-06-1992	KOHARA MINORU ET AL	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number (ctry ³ -no. ⁴ -kind ⁵ , if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited document	Pages, Columns Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
					T ⁶

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in capital letters), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ⁶
		PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN VOL. 1999, NO. 04, 30 APRIL 1999			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.